

(a) whether there is any proposal to bifurcate the South Eastern Railway zone with Vishakhapatnam as its Headquarters; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Cancellation of Samastipur-Patna Train

*73. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the only direct train between Samastipur and Patna has been cancelled;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be restored?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Due to fall in rail traffic consequent upon opening of Mahatma Gandhi Setu between Hajipur and Patna from 2.3.1982.

(c) There is no proposal to restore this train.

Promotion of Ayurvedic and Homoeopathic Systems of Medicine

*74. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to encourage Ayurvedic and Homoeopathic systems of medicine to attain the goal of "Health for all by 2000 A.D."; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) National Health Policy assigns an important role to the Indigenous Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy to supplement the role of modern medicine in the delivery of primary health care in the context of our national target of health for all by the year 2000 A. D.

Government is giving critical inputs for improvement of medical education, quality control of drugs and research.

[Translation]

University in the Name of Baba Saheb Ambedkar

*75. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government had decided two years back to set up a University in the name of Baba Saheb Ambedkar in Lucknow; and

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) An Act to set up Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar University at Lucknow was passed by the U.P. State Legislature in October, 1989. According to the information furnished by the State Government, 244 acres of land has been acquired by the State for establishing the University, and the work on construction has also started. The State Government has so far released an amount

of Rs. 21.92 crores for setting up the University.

[English]

Accident of Karnataka Express

*76. SHRI C. P. MUDALA GIRI-YAPPA:

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons killed and injured in the accident of Karnataka Express recently near Bangalore;

(b) the causes of the accident;

(c) the amount of compensation paid to the families of the deceased and the injured; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to avoid recurrence of such accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) In this accident, 29 persons lost their lives and 22 sustained injuries.

(b) to (d). The report of the Commissioner of Railway Safety, Southern Circle, Bangalore who is conducting a statutory inquiry into this accident, is awaited.

Ex-gratia relief amounting to Rs. 1.45,000/- has been paid to the next of kin of the dead and Rs. 39,250/- to the injured.

[Translation]

Infant Mortality Rate

*77. SHRIGIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the infant mortality rate in different States;

(b) whether the infant mortality rate in Rajasthan is higher than the national average; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to bring it down?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIM. L. FOTEDAR):

(a) to (c). The Infant Mortality Rate for the year 1990, as reported by the Registrar General of India (RGI) based on the Sample Registration System (SRS) for 17 States for which data is collected by the RGI is indicated in the enclosed Statement. According to this estimate, the Infant Mortality Rate in Rajasthan is 83 per thousand live births in comparison to the all India figure of 80 and is thus marginally higher.

A number of programmes have already been launched in the country, including Rajasthan, to reduce infant mortality. These include the Universal Immunization Programme, Oral Rehydration Therapy programme, Programme for Control of Acute Respiratory Infections in children and Prophylaxis Programmes against nutritional anaemia and night blindness due to the deficiency of iron and Vitamin 'A' respectively.

During the 8th Plan period, it is proposed to further strengthen and augment the major child survival interventions in Rajasthan. The Acute Respiratory Infections Control Programme, which is implemented in only two districts of the State will be implemented in a phased manner throughout the State. The Prophylaxis Scheme of Vitamin 'A' and Iron deficiency which presently covers only 30% of the beneficiaries will be universalised to cover all eligible beneficiaries.